Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-8 are pending, and are rejected.

Claims 1 and 5 are amended, and claims 9-16 are added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b)

The Office Action maintains that claims 1-8 are anticipated by WO 97/29581 ("Wilkes") because both independent claims 1 and 5 do not recite an Internet phone for used in a home environment and do not recite a home environment for Internet phone calls without having to modify the Internet network. Although applicants disagree with the interpretation, applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 5 to recite an Internet telephone set for used in a home environment in the interest of advancing the prosecution, and submit that amended claims 1 and 5, and their respective dependent claims 2-4 and 6-8 are patentable over Wilkes as discussed below.

The plain meaning of the term "telephone" and as defined in the specification, for example, FIG. 1 and page 5, line 33-page 6, line 4, is a telephone set, which, of course, is used in a building, such as a home environment. As such, an Internet phone, as recited in claims 1 and 5, necessarily means an Internet phone used in a building, such as a home environment. Since the Internet telephone set is used in a building and both claims 1 and 5 do not recite any element in Internet networks including the recited cable network, no change in the Internet networks is necessary to practice this invention.

In the interest of advancing the prosecution, applicants have amended claims 1 and 5 to recite an Internet telephone set for used in a home environment. For example, amended claim 1 recites a method for processing a voice call over an Internet by an Internet telephone set for used in a home environment, the Internet phone set having

an Internet interface device and a wireless device, and amended claim 5 recites an Internet telephone set for used in a home environment for processing a voice call over an Internet. In light of the amendments, applicants submit that Wilkes does not anticipate claims 1 and 5, and respective dependent claims 2-4 and 6-8.

New Claims

Claims 9-11 dependent from claim 5, and claims 12-16 dependent from claim 1 are added to further limit the wireless interface of the Internet phone to a cordless telephone interface. Support for these claims can be found, for example, on page 7, lines 3-15. These claims are patentable over Wilkes for their respective dependence from claims 1 and 5.

Furthermore, as pointed out in the Office Action and stated on page 13, lines 26-29 of Wilkes, a receiving VoiceEngine 34 (relied upon as the Internet interface device) calls a destination telephone 38 via a publicly or privately PSTN, a cellular switch, PCS, cable telephone, or radio 31. Even if the receiving VoiceEngine 34 uses a cellular switch or PCS, neither interface is a cordless telephone interface, as recited in claims 9-16. As such, claims 9-16 are patentable for this reason alone.

Conclusion

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.



No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to

Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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Patent Operations Thomson Licensing Inc. P.O. Box 5312 Princeton, New Jersey 08540 May 20, 2004

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I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to [Mail Stop RCE], Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

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